

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 3, 8-9, 15, 17, 21, and 23 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

B1
1. (Amended) A method in a software component for processing a data object in a data processing system, said method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

sending a query for a meta definition of a data object;

receiving the meta definition for the data object; [and

processing the data object according to attributes in the meta definition for the data object]

identifying object attributes in the meta definition; and

prompting a user to input data values corresponding to the object attributes.

Claim 6, line 1, kindly delete "1" and insert --5-- therefore.

B2
7. (Amended) A method in a software component for processing a data object in a data processing system, said method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

receiving a data value stream;

sending a query for a meta definition of a data object; [and

sending] receiving a meta definition of [a] the data object [in response to the query for the meta definition]; and

mapping data values to a data structure according to attributes in the meta definition of the data object.

B3
10. (Amended) The method according to claim 7 wherein the software component is a [Meta Data Service] Persistent Object Service.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim [10] 7 wherein the query for the meta definition for the data object is sent to a [software component residing in a client] Meta Data Service.

Claim 12, line 1, kindly delete "7" and insert --11-- therefore.

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13. (Amended) A data processing system for processing a data object, said data processing system comprising:

querying means for querying for a meta definition of a data object;

receipt means for receiving the meta definition for the data object; [and

process means for processing the data object according to attributes in the meta definition for the data object]

identification means for identifying object attributes in the meta definition; and

prompting means for prompting a user to input data values corresponding to the object attributes.

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16. (Amended) A data processing system for processing a data object, said data processing system comprising:

first receipt means for receiving a data value stream;

sender means for sending a query for a meta definition of a data object; [and

sender] second receipt means for [sending a] receiving the meta definition of [a] the data object [in response to the query for the meta definition] ; and

mapping means for mapping data values to a data structure according to attributes in the meta definition of the data object.

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19. (Amended) A computer program product for use with a data processing system for processing a data object, said computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium;

first instructions for sending a query for a meta definition of a data object; [and]

second instructions for receiving the meta definition for the data object;

[processing the data object according to attributes in the meta definition for the data object] third instructions for identifying object attributes in the meta definition; and

fourth instructions for prompting a user to input data values corresponding to the

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object attributes.

22. (Amended) A computer program product for use with a data processing system for processing a data object, said computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium;

first instructions for receiving a data value stream;

second instructions for sending a query for a meta definition of a data object; [and

second] third instructions for [sending a] receiving the meta definition of [a] the data object [in response to the query for the meta definition]; and

fourth instructions for mapping data values to a data structure according to
attributes in the meta definition of the data object.

Please add the following new claims:

--25. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving inputted data values corresponding to the object attributes from the user;

and

sending a data value stream including the inputted data values to a server.

26. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of prompting the user for data values comprises:

matching the meta definition to graphical user interface fields; and

presenting the graphical user interface fields to the user.

27. The method of claim 7, further comprising transferring the data values to the data structure.

28. The method of claim 7, wherein the data structure is a database.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the database is a relational database.

30. The system of claim 13, further comprising:
means for receiving inputted data values corresponding to the object attributes from the user; and
means for sending a data value stream including the inputted data values to a server.
31. The system of claim 13, wherein the prompting means comprises:
means for matching the meta definition to graphical user interface fields; and
means for presenting the graphical user interface fields to the user.
32. The system of claim 16, further comprising transfer means for transferring the data values to the data structure.
33. The system of claim 16, wherein the data structure is a database.
34. The method of claim ~~34~~³³, wherein the database is a relational database.
35. A method in a software component for processing a data object in a data processing system, said method comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
receiving a first data value stream for a data object;
sending a query for a meta definition of the data object;
receiving a meta definition of the data object; and
processing the data object according to attributes in the meta definition of the data object to form a second data value stream for the data object.
36. The method of claim 35, further comprising transferring the second data value stream to a Persistent Object Service.
37. The method of claim 35, further comprising, before querying for a meta definition of a data object, determining an object type of a data object.

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38. The method of claim 35, wherein the software component is in a first server.

39. The method of claim 38, further comprising transferring the second data value stream to a second server.

40. The method of claim 35, wherein the query for the meta definition for the data object is sent to a Meta Data Service.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein the meta definition is cached to improve the performance of the Meta Data Service.

42. A data processing system for processing a data object, said data processing system comprising:

first receipt means for receiving a data value stream for a data object;

sender means for sending a query for a meta definition of a data object;

second receipt means for receiving the meta definition of the data object; and

process means for processing the data object according to attributes in the meta definition for the data object to form a second data value stream.

43. The system of claim 42, further comprising transfer means for transferring the second data value stream to a Persistent Object Service.

44. The method of claim 42, wherein the software component is in a first server.

45. The method of claim 44, further comprising transfer means for transferring the second data stream to a second server.

46. A computer program product for use with a data processing system for processing a data object, said computer program product comprising: